Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program
Item Sampler

Grade 4

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Introduction

What is the TCAP Achievement Test?

The TCAP Achievement Test is a multiple-choice test designed to measure student achievement in certain skills in five subject areas: Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The sample questions in this On-Line Item Sampler are representative of the item types and item formats that will be used in the actual test, including those questions with art and without art.

What are the questions testing?

Questions are written to test student performance in State and national content areas. The State Content Standards and Performance Indicators were developed by the Tennessee Department of Education.
These Standards and Performance Indicators are listed on the State Department of Education Web site at http://www.state.tn.us/education/ci/cistandards.htm

Who will be tested?

All students in grades three through eight will be tested.

How long will the tests take?

The length of the tests will vary, depending on the grade level. The time limits are generous and allow most students time to finish. Extended time limits apply for students using accommodations.

How do I use the sample questions?

These questions provide information for students, parents, and teachers about the TCAP Achievement Test. The questions in the On-Line Item Sampler are representative of most of the question types that will be on the TCAP Achievement Test.

These questions can be used as a classroom learning session or as an individual, short practice test to prepare students for the actual test. Item types with and without art are presented to better familiarize students with the actual test format.

An answer key for the sample questions is provided at the end of this On-Line Item Sampler.

How will the tests be scored?

The test answers will be machine scored. Results from the test provide information about how well students performed on the content being tested.

May calculators be used?

A calculator may be used for test items that do not measure the academic skill of computation, e.g., applied concepts and algebraic problems. Calculators may be used on most TCAP Achievement Mathematics Subtests. Calculators **may not** be used on any part of the K–2 test.

Which test accommodations may be used?

The Achievement Test may be administered using various procedures (or accommodations) that are used during the student's daily educational program. Certain conditions must be met for students to be eligible for Special and English Language Learner Accommodations.

What are some tips for preparing students for the test?

Remind students to

Relax: It is normal to be somewhat anxious before the test. Remember that the score is only one of a number of measures of performance.

Listen: Listen to and read the test directions carefully.

Plan Use of Time: First, answer all the questions you are sure about. Do not spend too much time on any one question. If a question seems to take too long, skip it and return to it later if you have extra time.

Pause and Think: If you are not sure how to answer a question, carefully read it again. Rule out answer choices that you know are incorrect and then choose from those that remain.

Directions   **Read the poem. Then answer Numbers 1 through 3.**

A View from a Backpack

by Elizabeth Massie

My home is at the bottom of a zippered canvas sack
That Bobby MacAdoodle takes to school upon his back.
He put me in here long ago when school began in fall,
And here I stay, since that first day, all wadded in a ball.

I am a piece of paper that Bobby used in class
To write a poem about a cricket hopping through the grass.
But he changed his mind and wrote of baseball games instead.
Into the backpack I went, landing crumpled on my head.

I'm not complaining that I feel alone or lost or mad,
For I have lots of buddies, so I'm never really sad.
We keep each other company, a bunch of odds and ends,
And sometimes Bobby tosses in another couple friends.

There are three paper clips that Bobby dropped in one day,
An ink pen cap, a pencil lead, erasers—white and gray,
A lunch bag with some slimy stuff, some chocolate crumbs and glue,
Some string, some lint, a homework pad, a sandwich turning blue.

Bobby opens up his backpack when he needs to get a book.
But rarely does he dig down deep or try to take a look.

But one spring day, oh say in May or maybe early June,
When flower blossoms scent the air and bluebirds sing their tune,
School will let out and home we'll go for good, my friends and I.
Bobby then will dump us out and at last we'll see the sky.

Pens, pencils and the glue will find a home upon a shelf.
That blue sandwich and its slimy bag—well, just ask yourself.
Notebooks and those paper clips straight on to the desk they'll go.
Then Bobby's mom will find my poem, and frame me just for show!

Reporting Category:	1 Content
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.5 Identify characters, setting, and plot in a passage.**

1 The story this poem tells mainly takes place

A on a shelf

B at a school

C in a backpack

D by a baseball field

Reporting Category:	2 Meaning
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.20 Recognize cause and effect relationships within text.**

2 What happens when Bobby doesn't check his backpack?

F he forgets his eraser

G he loses his homework

H a sandwich grows moldy and blue

J a paper clip gets tangled in the string

Reporting Category:	3 Vocabulary
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.7 Identify grade level compound words, contractions, and common abbreviations within context.**

3 Which of these words from the poem is a compound word?

A spring

B canvas

C chocolate

D backpack

Reporting Category:	4 Writing/Organization
Performance Indicator:	4.2.spi.7 Select appropriate time-order or transitional words to enhance the flow of a writing sample.

Directions Michael wrote a letter to his grandmother. Read the letter. Then answer Numbers 4 through 7.

88 Armadillo Court
Austin, TX 78704
November 1, 2003

Dear Nana,

▽1 Thank you for sending the delicious banana bread. ▽2 I ate two pieces for breakfast, and one for desert! ▽3 I am very interested in cooking. ▽4 I like running and reading, too. ▽5 Will you teach me how to make banana bread until you are here in February? ▽6 I hope you are doing well. ▽7 Please say hello to Grandpa for me.

Love,
Michael

4 What is the correct way to write Sentence 5 ?

F Will you teach me how to make banana bread although you are here in February?

G Will you teach me how to make banana bread however you are here in February?

H Will you teach me how to make banana bread when you are here in February?

J Correct as it is

Reporting Category:	5 Writing/Process
Performance Indicator:	4.2.spi.15 Identify sentences irrelevant to a paragraph's theme or flow.

5 Which sentence does not belong in Michael's letter?

A Thank you for sending the delicious banana bread.

B I ate two pieces for breakfast, and one for desert!

C I am very interested in cooking.

D I like running and reading, too.

Reporting Category:	6 Grammar/Conventions
Performance Indicator:	4.3.spi.8 Choose the correct formation of plurals, contractions, and possessives within context.

6 Which sentence is written correctly?

F Well' have so much fun cooking together.

G I'll hold the bowl, and Nana will stir the batter.

H When its done cooking, the bread will be golden brown.

J Making banana bread isnt' very hard at all!

Reporting Category:	**7 Techniques and Skills**
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.2 Use table of contents, title page, and glossary to locate information.**

Directions   Look at the table of contents from a cookbook.

7   Which chapter would have a recipe for banana bread?

A   Chapter 1

B   Chapter 2

C   Chapter 3

D   Chapter 4

Mathematics

Reporting Category:	1 Number Sense/Number Theory
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.5 Identify the place value of a given digit from hundred-thousands to hundredths.**

1 What is the place value of 3 in 4,821.53 ?

A hundreds

B hundredths

C tens

D thousandths

Reporting Category:	1 Number Sense/Number Theory
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.6 Identify fractions as parts of whole units, as parts of sets, as locations on number lines, and as divisions of whole numbers.**

2 What part of this set is shaded?

F $\frac{1}{2}$

G $\frac{1}{3}$

H $\frac{1}{4}$

J $\frac{1}{8}$

Reporting Category:	**2 Computation**
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.3 Solve one-step real-world problems involving addition or subtraction of whole numbers.**

3 Clark is reading a book that is 134 pages. He has read 59 pages. How many more pages does Clark have to read in the book?

- **A** 75
- **B** 85
- **C** 125
- **D** 193

Reporting Category:	**2 Computation**
Performance Indicator:	**4.1.spi.7 Multiply efficiently and accurately with single-digit whole numbers.**

4 Solve: $4 \times 9 =$

- **F** 32
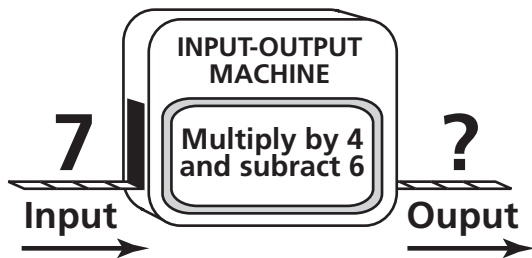- **G** 36
- **H** 45
- **J** 49

Reporting Category:	**3 Algebraic Thinking**
Performance Indicator:	**4.2.spi.6 Apply basic function rules.**

INPUT-OUTPUT MACHINE

7

Multiply by 4 and subract 6

?

Input   **Ouput**

5 Which is the output?

A   17
B   22
C   34
D   38

Reporting Category:	**3 Algebraic Thinking**
Performance Indicator:	**4.3.spi.6 Locate and specify points in Quadrant I of a coordinate system.**

6 Which shape is located at point (6, 3)?
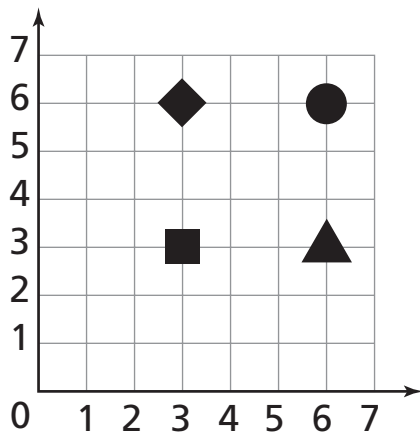
F ■   G ◆   H ▲   J ●

Reporting Category: **4 Real World Problem Solving**

Performance Indicator: **4.4.spi.6 Solve real-world problems involving addition and subtraction of measurements.**

7 When Zane planted the bean plant, it was 13 centimeters tall. Now the bean plant is 42 centimeters tall. How many more centimeters did it grow after it was planted?

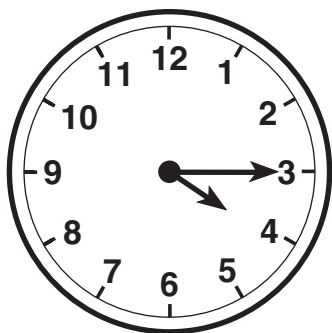| 29 centimeters	31 centimeters	39 centimeters	56 centimeters
A	**B**	**C**	**D**

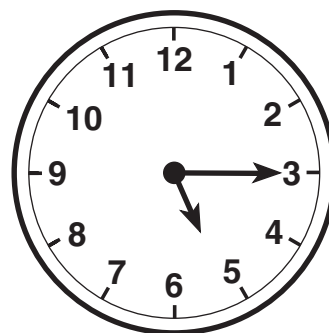**Reporting Category:** **4 Real World Problem Solving**

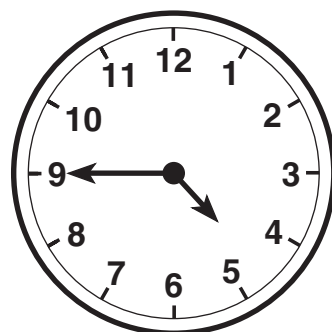**Performance Indicator:** **4.4.spi.7 Solve real-world problems involving elapsed time to the quarter-hour.**

8 Birds are most active 30 minutes <u>before</u> sunrise. Sunrise is at 5:15 A.M. Which clock shows when the birds are most active?
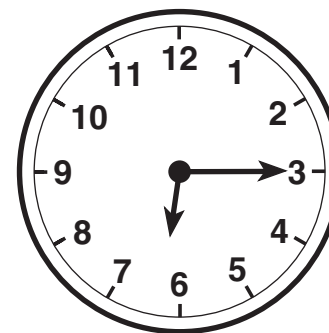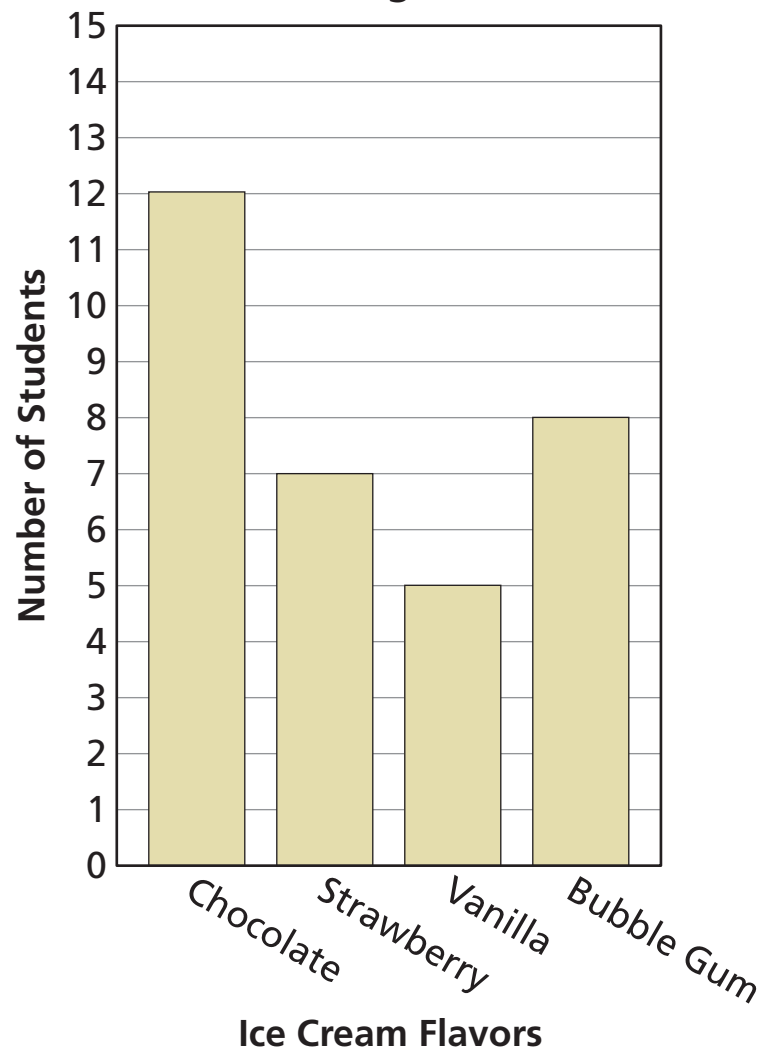
F

H

G

J

Directions   Use the graph to do Number 9.

9   Which ice-cream flavor did the <u>most</u> students pick as their favorite?

A   vanilla

B   chocolate

C   strawberry

D   bubble gum

Favorite Ice Cream Flavors of Ms. Tong's Class

Reporting Category:	**5 Data Analysis and Probability**
Performance Indicator:	**4.5.spi.5 Determine the median of a data set.**

10 Listed below are the ages of Katie and her sisters.

11, 7, 4, 9, 8

What is the <u>median</u> age?

F   5
G   6
H   7
J   8

Reporting Category:	**6 Measurement**
Performance Indicator:	**4.4.spi.2 Find the perimeter of rectangles.**

11 What is the <u>perimeter</u> of the rectangle?

A   28 feet
B   56 feet
C   78 feet
D   195 feet

13 feet

15 feet
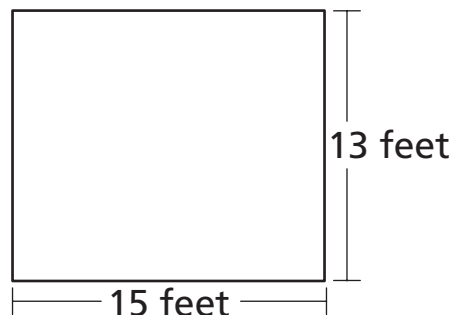
Reporting Category:	**6 Measurement**
Performance Indicator:	**4.4.spi.9 Select appropriate standard units to measure length, perimeter, area, capacity, volume, weight, time, temperature, and angles.**

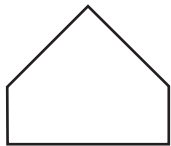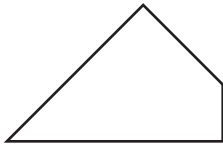**12** Which could be the weight of a backpack filled with books?

F   10 grams
G   10 kilograms
H   10 ounces
J   10 tons

Reporting Category:	7 Geometry
Performance Indicator:	**4.3.spi.2 Recognize congruent geometric figures.**

13 Which figure is <u>congruent</u> to this shape?

A

C

B

D
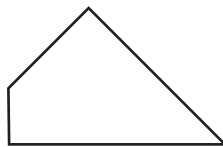
Reporting Category:	7 Geometry
Performance Indicator:	**4.3.spi.5 Identify two- or three-dimensional shapes given defining attributes.**

14 A figure has 4 sides. The sides are <u>not</u> all the same length.
What is the figure?

    F   circle

    G   rectangle

    H   square

    J   triangle

Science

Reporting Category:	1 Structure and Function of Organisms
Performance Indicator:	4.3.spi.1 Match the edible parts of plants with particular plant structures.

1 A carrot plant is shown below.
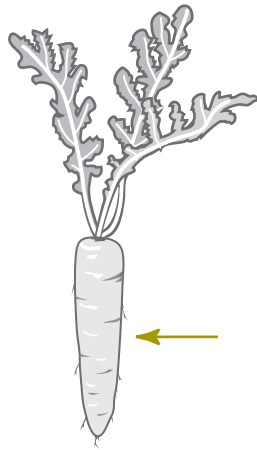
The arrow points to a part of the plant that is eaten by humans. What is this part called?

A a tuber

B a stem

C a leaf

D a root

Reporting Category:	1 Structure and Function of Organisms
Performance Indicator:	4.3.spi.2 Compare how various animals obtain and use food for energy.

2 Which of these animals gets its energy by eating other animals?

F a cow

G a wolf

H a sheep

J a horse

Reporting Category:	**2 Ecology**
Performance Indicator:	**4.2.spi.3 Identify ways that organisms affect their environment.**

3 Rabbits were brought to Australia in the 1800s. There were very few animals that ate these rabbits, and the rabbit population grew very fast.

Which of these <u>most likely</u> happened after the rabbits were brought to Australia?

A New animals that eat the rabbits began to move to Australia.

B The rabbits ate most of the plants that other animals need for food.

C The population of plants that the rabbits ate grew more rapidly.

D Populations of other animals that eat plants also grew rapidly.

Reporting Category:	**2 Ecology**
Performance Indicator:	**4.5.spi.1 Match a plant or animal adaptation to a particular environmental condition.**

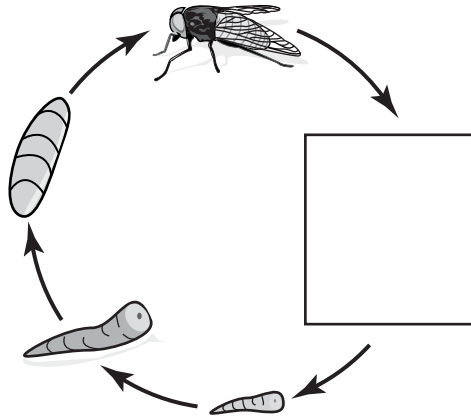**4** A certain animal has webbed feet like the ones shown below.
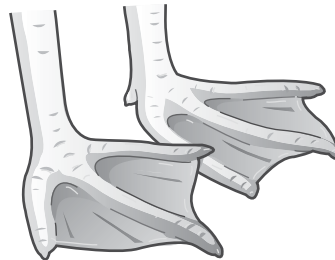
In which of these environments would webbed feet be <u>most</u> helpful for survival?

F desert

G forest

H lake

J meadow

5 Part of the life cycle of a fly is shown below.

Which of these should be placed in the empty box to complete the life cycle?

A an egg

B a pupa

C a larva

D an adult

Reporting Category:	**3 Life Cycles and Biological Change**
Performance Indicator:	**4.4.spi.2 Recognize the relationship between reproduction and the survival of a species.**

6 A female bullfrog lays thousands of eggs each spring in a pond.

Which of these would <u>most likely</u> happen if all of the male bullfrogs in the pond were removed?

F All of the eggs would produce female frogs.

G A different species of frog would fertilize the eggs.

H After a few days, all of the female frogs would die.

J After a few years, there would be no frogs in the pond.

Reporting Category:	**4 Space, Weather, and Climate**
Performance Indicator:	**4.7.spi.1 Determine the order of the planets according to their distance from the sun.**

7 Which planet is closest to the sun?

A Earth

B Mars

C Mercury

D Venus

8 Which of these correctly shows the position of the sun and a person's shadow?

F

H

G

J

Reporting Category:	5 Earth's Features and Resources
Performance Indicator:	**4.9.spi.1 Recognize specific geological features.**

Look at the picture below.
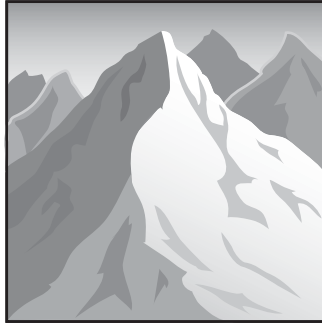
9 Which of these is shown in this picture?

   A   a valley

   B   an old river

   C   a mountain

   D   a volcanic crater

Reporting Category:	5 Earth's Features and Resources
Performance Indicator:	**4.10.spi.3 Distinguish between renewable and nonrenewable resources.**

10 Which of these is a renewable resource?

   F   coal

   G   gas

   H   oil

   J   trees

Reporting Category:	**6 Motion and Forces, Forms of Energy**
Performance Indicator:	**4.11.spi.2 Recognize the effects of gravity.**

11 A ball rolls off the edge of a table and falls to the floor.
Which of these causes the ball to fall to the floor?

A gravity

B friction

C air pressure

D air resistance
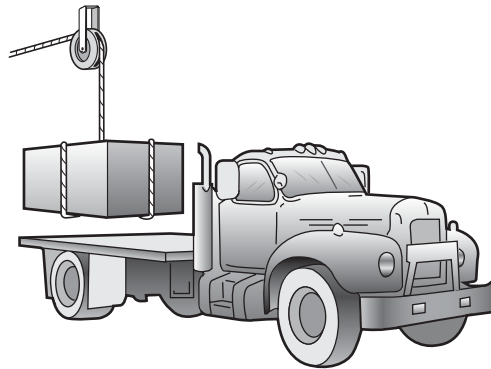
Reporting Category:	**6 Motion and Forces, Forms of Energy**
Performance Indicator:	**4.11.spi.3 Recognize simple machines (i.e., inclined plane, lever, pulley).**

12 The picture below shows a box being loaded onto a truck.

Which of these simple machines is being used to lift the box?

F inclined plane

G lever

H pulley

J wheel

Reporting Category:	**7 Matter**
Performance Indicator:	**4.12.spi.1 Select an object according to its observable physical properties.**

13 Which of these has a rough surface and is shaped like a rectangle?

    A   a doormat

    B   a party hat

    C   an ice cube

    D   a photograph

Reporting Category:	**7 Matter**
Performance Indicator:	**4.13.spi.1 Choose features associated with physical changes.**

14 Dan folded a piece of paper to make a paper airplane like the one shown below.
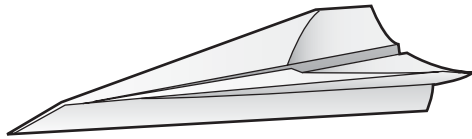
The process of making the paper airplane is

    F   a chemical change because the airplane can fly

    G   a physical change because no new substance is formed

    H   a physical change because heat is produced

    J   a chemical change because the piece of paper is folded

Social Studies

Reporting Category:	1 Economics
Performance Indicator:	4.2.spi.2 Interpret a chart of major agricultural produce in Tennessee (i.e., cotton, tobacco, soybeans, rice, corn, cattle, wheat, swine, sheep).

Directions Use the chart below and your own knowledge to do Number 1.

Some Major Crops Produced in Tennessee—2002

Crop	Number of Acres Harvested (in thousands)
Corn	620
Soybeans	1,120
Tobacco	36
Wheat	300

Source: Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service

1 According to the chart, farmers in Tennessee harvested the most acres of

A corn

B soybeans

C tobacco

D wheat

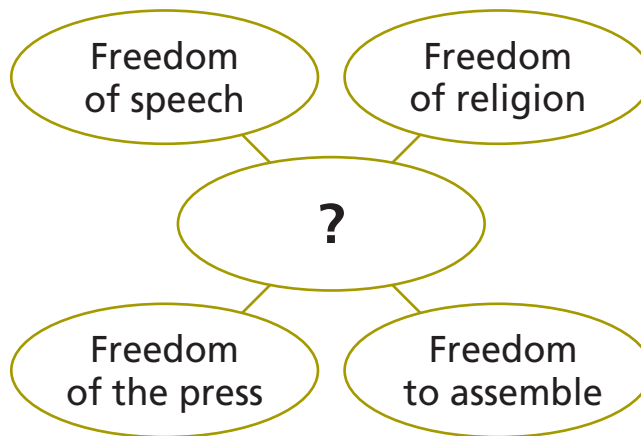| **Reporting Category:**	**1 Economics**
Performance Indicator:	**4.2.spi.4 Recognize the difference between a barter system and a money system.**

2 Which of these is an example of someone using a money system?

    F   Shawn helps his mom do the laundry.

    G   John gives Lori ten dollars for a haircut.

    H   Ramona gives Terry an apple in exchange for a banana.

    J   Dave cleans Claudia's house in exchange for a concert ticket.

Reporting Category:	**2 Governance and Civics**
Performance Indicator:	**4.4.spi.2 Identify the rights outlined by the Bill of Rights (i.e., Amendments 1, 5, 6, 8).**

Freedom of speech — Freedom of religion — **?** — Freedom of the press — Freedom to assemble

3 Which amendment in the Bill of Rights best completes the diagram above?

    A   First Amendment

    B   Fifth Amendment

    C   Sixth Amendment

    D   Eighth Amendment

Reporting Category:	**2 Governance and Civics**
Performance Indicator:	**4.4.spi.1 Identify the 3 branches of federal and state governments.**

4 Which of these is a responsibility of the judicial branch of government?

   F writing laws

   G enforcing laws

   H interpreting laws

   J signing bills into laws

Reporting Category:	**3 Geography**
Performance Indicator:	**4.3.spi.4 Recognize river systems that impacted early American history (i.e., Mississippi, Mystic, Charles, Hudson).**

5 On which of these rivers were New Orleans and St. Louis built in the 1700s?

   A Charles River

   B Hudson River

   C Mississippi River

   D Mystic River

Reporting Category:	3 Geography
Performance Indicator:	4.3.spi.6 Use latitude and longitude to identify major North American cities on a map (i.e., Boston, Mexico City, Toronto, Charleston, Savannah, Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Santa Fe, Los Angeles).

Directions   Use the map below and your own knowledge to do Number 6.

Some Cities in the Western United States

**6**   Which of these cities is located at about 34° N and 118° W ?

F   Denver

G   Los Angeles

H   Reno

J   Seattle

Reporting Category:	4 U.S. History Period 1 (Beginnings–1820)
Performance Indicator:	4.5.spi.10 Recognize the accomplishments John Sevier contributed to Tennessee history (i.e., State of Franklin's one and only governor, Tennessee's first governor, United States Congressman, soldier).

Helped establish state of Franklin

Member of United States Congress

John Sevier

?

Soldier
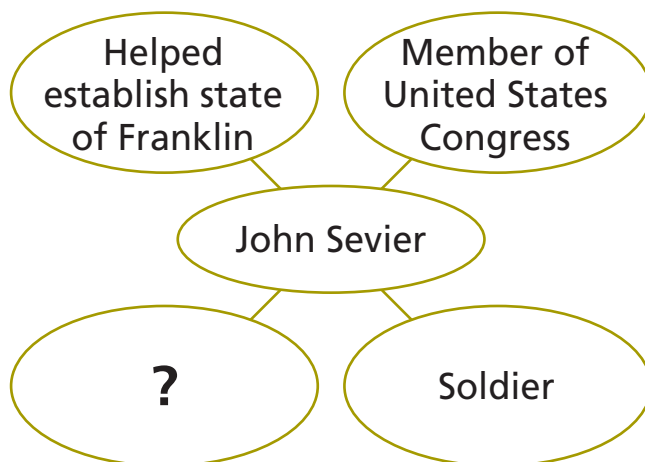
7 Which of these <u>best</u> completes the diagram above?

A First governor of Tennessee

B Opened the Wilderness Road

C First Tennessean to become president

D Member of the Lewis and Clark expedition

Reporting Category:	4 U.S. History Period 1 (Beginnings–1820)
Performance Indicator:	4.1.spi.5 Identify various racial and ethnic groups in Tennessee at the founding of statehood (i.e., Cherokee, Creek, Shawnee, English, Scottish, French, American-born pioneers).

8 Which of these groups lived in Tennessee at the time it became a state?

F Hopi

G Inca

H Inuit

J Shawnee

Reporting Category:	5 U.S. History Period 2 (1801–1900)
Performance Indicator:	4.5.spi.2 Identify major Tennessee political leaders (i.e., Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston, James Polk, Sequoya, David Crockett, Nancy Ward).

- Colorful frontiersman
- Served in the Tennessee Legislature
- Served in the United States Congress
- Died while defending the Alamo in Texas

9 Which of these leaders is described in the box above?

A John Sevier

B Sam Houston

C David Crockett

D Andrew Jackson

Reporting Category:	5 U.S. History Period 2 (1801–1900)
Performance Indicator:	4.5.spi.9 Determine the influence Lewis and Clark's expedition had on westward expansion.

10 Which of these statements is true about Lewis and Clark on their exploration of the Louisiana Purchase?

    F   They found a route to the Pacific Ocean.

    G   They traveled only on the Missouri River.

    H   They avoided all contact with Native Americans.

    J   They stayed on the east coast of North America.

Answer Key

Reading and Language Arts

1	C
2	H
3	D
4	H
5	D
6	G
7	D

Mathematics

1	B
2	G
3	A
4	G
5	B
6	H
7	A
8	G
9	B
10	J
11	B
12	G
13	D
14	G

Science

1	D
2	G
3	B
4	H
5	A
6	J
7	C
8	H
9	C
10	J
11	A
12	H
13	A
14	G

Social Studies

1	B
2	G
3	A
4	H
5	C
6	G
7	A
8	J
9	C
10	F